

**TEXT OF NOTE TO ENGLAND
GIVEN OUT TO ALLAY FEAR;
PROTEST. BUT NO MENACE**

**Contains Warning, However
of Possible Hostility
of Merchants.**

ASKS CONSIDERATION FOR AMERICAN TRADE

Blames Loss to Shippers on

**Fear That Cargoes Are
in Danger.**

BASES HOPE ON LONG AMITY OF COUNTRIES

Washington Regards Com-

Communication as Firm and Dignified.

text of the American note of protest to Great Britain in regard to British interference with neutral trade was made public by the State Department tonight. The note was given out in accordance with an arrangement made

with the British Government on the initiative of the United States for simultaneous publication in both countries.

The text of the note bears out the statement made in London that the character of the communication was exaggerated in the early accounts of its contents. In no place is it asserted that the United States cannot "tolerate"

British practices, nor is this Government in any way committed to any extreme measures in case Great Britain fails to change her practices as desired. The nearest approach to anything

like a threat is the request that Great Britain inform the United States of the manner in which it intends to execute its policy in order that this Government "may determine the steps necessary to protect our citizens."

gaged in foreign trade in the rights and from the serious losses which they are liable, through ignorance of the hazards of which the cargoes are exposed." The only other statement in the note approaching the

of In character is that "this Government cannot without protest permit" some of the things Great Britain has been doing. On the other hand those who drafted the note took pains to emphasize the desire of the United States to treat the issues involved with England in a

Particular interest has been aroused by the last paragraph of the note, in which the United States is said to have been in a sort of heart to heart manner in the position of the Washington government.

in relation to its own people is set forth in that is, that the grumbling among the trade interests affected by British practices has not only compelled the Washington Government to act but seems likely to result in an alienation of American sympathy from Great Britain. Great Britain is warned in short that if

On the whole, however, the note is regarded here as a calm, dignified and restrained communication, and it is believed this character of the note will

Text of the Note.

The note, which was sent in the form of an instruction to Ambassador Page yesterday, is as follows:

"DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
"WASHINGTON, December 26, 1914.
"The present condition of American
trade, resulting from the frequent seizure
and detentions of American cargoes di-
rected to neutral European ports, has be-
come so serious as to require a care-

statement of the views of this Government in order that the British Government may be fully advised as to the attitude of the United States toward the policy which has been pursued by the British authorities during the present war.

"You will therefore communicate following to his Majesty's principal S

retary of State for Foreign Affairs, in doing so you will assure him that it is done in the most friendly spirit and in belief that frankness will better serve the continuance of cordial relations between the two countries than silence, which might be misconstrued into acquiescence in course of conduct which this Government

"The Government of the United States has viewed with growing concern the large number of vessels laden with American goods destined to neutral ports in Europe which have been seized on high seas, taken into British ports and used as a base for operations."

detained sometimes for weeks by the British authorities. During the early days of the war this Government assumed that the policy adopted by the British Government was due to the unexpected outbreak of hostilities and the necessity of immediate action to prevent the crossband from reaching the enemy.

judge this policy harshly or protect vigorously, although it was manifestly very injurious to American trade with neutral countries of Europe. This Government, relying confidently upon the regard which Great Britain has so often exhibited in the past for the rights of other nations, confidently awaited an

ment of a course of action which den-
ved to neutral commerce the freedom to wh-
it was entitled by the law of nations.
"This expectation seemed to be rende-
the more assured by the statement of
Foreign Office early in November that